



*"where the river flows everything will live"*

## WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2021

### Lent is here, embracing it could change your life!

The 17 February is Ash Wednesday and for Christians across the world it marks the beginning of the season we call Lent. Lent is a special time for Christians to turn to God afresh, and rediscover and renew our faith and our love for the Lord. All of us are feeling detached from one another at the moment, however all of us undertaking Lent 'together' can help us feel connected to one another.



As I wrote last week, I want to encourage as many of you to engage with Lent. **Why do Lent?**

**40 days for things to change** - In the Bible 40 days is a time when things happen and things change. There is much that needs to change in our lives, our nation and our world. Lent gives us a chance to pray and work fervently for that change.

**40 days of repentance** - "Return to me with all your heart" Joel 2:12. Lent is a time for us to come back to Jesus and discover his life and love afresh.

**40 days following in Jesus' footsteps** - Jesus faced 40 days and 40 nights of trial and testing, and for our salvation he won through! We, like so many around the world, are going through times of trial and testing. Uniting ourselves to Jesus we can overcome!

**40 days of discipline** - Come on, don't stop reading!!! Traditionally Christians have followed the teaching of Jesus in Matthew Chapter 6 by engaging in prayer, almsgiving and fasting and through exercising these disciplines have seen the extension of God's reign.

**40 days journeying together** - Lent is an individual journey but it's also a communal one. We can encourage one another, support one another and help one another in faith and love.

**40 days for the renewal of faith, hope and love**



### Lent 2021 - 40 Days of Renewal, Noticing God in Everyday Things.

*inspired by the book 'At Home in Lent' by Gordon Giles.*

#### 7.30pm Lent Worship and Introduction to our weekly evening Lent meetings.

40 Days of Renewal - Noticing God in Everyday Things.

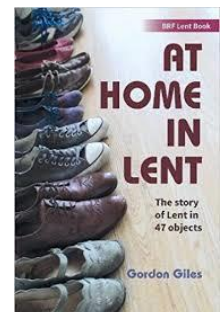
Here is the Zoom link for you to join the 7.30-9.00pm Wednesday evenings in Lent - 24 Feb, 3 March, 10 March, 17 March & Wed 24 March on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84395865106?pwd=T0lxYjdYajNBbmRicDBwaXI5N2Zrdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 9586 5106, Passcode: 314970

#### Lent Pilgrimage at Home daily

For each day of Lent (Ash Wed - Palm Sunday) there will be an object chosen to reflect upon. We are asked to prayerfully notice what God might be saying through that object. We will reflect on its use/purpose/place, its cost, its touch, smell, sound etc... There will be a Bible passage daily that links to the object, and we will consider a response (action, prayer etc...)



- Each week in Lent the objects will be taken from a different room/space in our homes.
- We will look inwards to ourselves, upwards at God and outwards to the world.
- The information will go out on email, Facebook, Instagram [@tidenhamparishlent](#) and hard copies of the booklet are available.
- This daily venture is about finding God in the ordinary and everyday spaces of our lives.



The Lord grant you and me a Holy Lent.

God bless

**David**

Revd David Treharne

*Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir.*

### **Services in Parish of Tidenham**

In light of the ongoing lockdown restrictions, both in England and Wales due to ongoing COVID cases and the more readily transmitted new variant, the decision has been made, with full support of the Diocese, to suspend gatherings for public worship in the parish of Tidenham and move Sunday services 'online' until at least the end of February. We will keep this under review, taking note of government announcements, and hope to resume our physical meetings again soon.

The church buildings will no longer be open for private prayer during the new national lockdown. Stay at home. Protect the NHS. Save lives.

### **The First Sunday of Lent**

This Sunday will be Morning Worship. We will continue to provide an online act of worship from 9am each Sunday morning on our YouTube Channel 'Tidenham Parish Online Church'

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRjOlvDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

### **Zoom Coffee 11.30am-12.15pm on Sunday Mornings during Lockdown.**

As well as a chance to see one another and catch up, we have a chance to share life. What has made you smile in the week, and what might you want/need prayer for in the coming week? Feel free to join us.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82631968802?pwd=N3hyak5lL3hnRXlVtVG0zZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 3196 8802, Passcode: 497225

**The Bible readings:** 1 Peter 3:18-end & Mark 1:9-15

**The Collect:** Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Post Communion prayer:** Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Morning Prayer on zoom.**

We will resume our online provision of morning prayer with CYTUN, Churches Together in Chepstow, Monday to Thursday online at 9.00am <https://zoom.us/j/122778377> All are welcome to join in.

Wednesdays: 9:15am prayer for YCFM.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78170531212?pwd=cVcrZEJmSDdKWFJyelBtencvSVlYQT09>

Meeting ID: 781 7053 1212 Passcode: 2vKKGp



**Lent Mid-Week Communion:** A service of Holy Communion will be live streamed on the Tidenham Parish Facebook Group at 12 noon on Wednesday.

## Splash Gathering via Zoom, Sunday 21st February, 3pm.

Please bring your response to the Transfiguration story; please contact Jane for the link.

**Life Group meetings** – please contact relevant people if you'd like to join in

- Sunday 7.30pm – Life Group for men! Online - James Parsons at [James.darsie@gmail.com](mailto:James.darsie@gmail.com)
- Tuesday 1pm - Life Group Online - Julia Parsons [juliaparsons727@gmail.com](mailto:juliaparsons727@gmail.com)
- Wednesday 10.30am (hopefully restarting soon) [DTRevd@aol.com](mailto:DTRevd@aol.com)
- Wednesday, 7.30pm Life Group online (**not during Lent**) [fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com)
- Wednesday 8pm – Life Group Online (fortnightly) [janice-hamilton@outlook.com](mailto:janice-hamilton@outlook.com)
- Thursday 1pm - Life Group Online – Jane Penny [cfmtidenham@btinternet.com](mailto:cfmtidenham@btinternet.com)

## Parish News and Information

*“Living life together in the flow of God’s love.”*

**Sad announcement** - Revd Brian Green who served this parish as Vicar during the 1990s and whom many of you will remember with great fondness, died on Friday 12 February after a long period of ill health. You can join the video funeral service by following this link:

<https://www.obitus.com/>

User name: Heto 2744

Password: 155741

The service will open 5 minutes before 10 am, on Friday 26 February. (You are advised to use discretion if you see things from the earlier service) A video recording of the service will be available 3 days after and online up to 28 days afterwards.

**Fairtrade Fortnight** is from Monday 22 Feb to Sunday 7 March. It's an opportunity to find out more about the difference Fairtrade makes. The theme this year is 'Climate,' 'Fairtrade and You' and 'Choose the World You Want.' As Christians we are encouraged to care for one another and the beautiful world God has given us. We can all make changes to help choose the world we want by buying Fairtrade produce and enabling producers to feed their families and invest in their land and farm sustainably. Give Fairtrade a try, there are over 6,000 Fairtrade products from coffee and tea to flowers and gold, so when you shop look for the Fairtrade mark.



For more information speak to Julia, Tanya or Marilyn, or visit the website

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/resources-library/current-campaigns/fairtrade-and-the-climate-crisis/> or <https://fairtradewales.com/get-involved/fairtrade-fortnight-2021>

**COVID Vaccination Programme** - We rejoice at the successful roll out of the COVID vaccination programme. Gloucester Diocese has partnered with Christian Aid to make a way for people to express their gratitude and to pass on the sense of blessing by making a donation to the Coronavirus Appeal which is helping vulnerable communities around the world in the face of the pandemic.

If you would like to know more or make a donation in thanksgiving for your vaccination follow this link:

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/.../generosity-in.../>

**PCC Minutes for 2020** - If you would like an electronic copy of the approved PCC minutes for 2020, please email the PCC Secretary, Iain Gardiner – [i.a.gardiner007@btinternet.com](mailto:i.a.gardiner007@btinternet.com) Thank you.

**Desert Island Hymns** - If you were only able to take one hymn/song with you on a desert island which one would it be? We will be looking to include the hymns in our worship going forward, please let Clare or David know or post your favourites on our Parish Facebook page.

A favourite hymn of Captain Stephen Adamson is 'Ye Holy Angels Bright, who wait at God's Right Hand,' written by R.Baxter and the tune was composed by J.Darwall.



**'The Bulletin' from the Diocese of Gloucester** - keeping you up to date with news from the Diocese, please follow this link <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2021/the-bulletin-03-feb/> and a message from Bishop Robert <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2021/message-from-bishop-robert-3/>

**Daily Hope** - Is a free national telephone line which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of the phone 0800 804 8044.

### **Residents at risk of being scammed over COVID-19 vaccine.**

The latest scam we are seeing is criminals cold calling, sending texts and emails attempting to lure people to jump the queue by paying for a 'priority slot' for the COVID-19 vaccine.

If people click on the link provided they are taken to a fake NHS website which requests them to enter in all sorts of information including bank details, date of birth etc.

**Remember** - the vaccine is free of charge and there is no way to jump the queue. If you receive one of these calls, hang up and block the number. If you have received an email, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages should be forwarded free of charge to 7726 which enables your provider to investigate the origin of the text and take action.

**Please** - Take a moment to think before parting with your money or information, it could keep you safe. It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests and only criminals will try to rush or panic you. Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen victim to a scam and report it to the Police.

The NHS, The police, or your bank, will never ask you to withdraw money or transfer it to a different account. They will also never ask you to reveal your full banking password or PIN.

*Regards, DC 357 Gareth Jordan - Cyber Protect Officer*

### **Financial Support**

If you would like to make a gift to the Church and also consider ongoing regular financial giving into 2021. Bank details are Tidenham Parochial Church, Sort Code 30-91-89 & Account number 00304754. Standing order and Gift Aid forms are available to download from the website. PCC wishes to thank all who have continued to give generously this year.



### **TIDENHAM PARISH ONLINE LINKS AND CONTACTS**

Parish Website: This has information, documents and links to other sites.

<https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk>

Facebook Page – for communicating news & info to the wider community. Please 'follow' or 'like'.

<https://facebook.com/tidenhamparishchurch>

Facebook Group - all welcome to join this private group and post comments.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/>

YouTube channel: 'Tidenham Parish Online Church' with videos to assist your devotions.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

St Briavels & Hewelsfield website: [www.stbandhchurches.org.uk](http://www.stbandhchurches.org.uk)

Revd David Treharne	01291 760034	<a href="mailto:dtrevd@aol.com">dtrevd@aol.com</a>
Revd Janice Hamilton	01291 626158	<a href="mailto:janice-hamilton@outlook.com">janice-hamilton@outlook.com</a>
Revd Nicki Bullivant	07922 833835	<a href="mailto:benedictusnicki@gmail.com">benedictusnicki@gmail.com</a> (Parish Day is Thursday)
Revd David Rees	01594 530443	<a href="mailto:david.rees17@btinternet.com">david.rees17@btinternet.com</a>
Revd Canon Dr Tom Clammer	01722 504938	<a href="mailto:tomclammer@gmail.com">tomclammer@gmail.com</a>
Fiona Gardiner	01291 624868	<a href="mailto:fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com">fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com</a>
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Jane Penny	01594 563803	<a href="mailto:cfmtidenham@btinternet.com">cfmtidenham@btinternet.com</a> (urgent only Mon/Fri)
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